



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is responsible for protecting the health and well-being of Americans through its research, public health, and social services programs. The President's 2023 Budget for HHS invests in: mental healthcare and suicide prevention; healthcare access and outcomes for vulnerable populations; health research and innovation; public health systems and pandemic preparedness; ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic; social service equity; access to child care and early learning programs; and support services for survivors of domestic violence.

The Budget requests \$127.3 billion in discretionary funding for HHS, a \$26.9 billion or 26.8-percent increase from the 2021 enacted level, excluding amounts requested for the Indian Health Service (IHS), which the Budget proposes to shift from discretionary to mandatory funding. This request includes appropriations for 21st Century Cures Act and program integrity activities.

The President's 2023 Budget:

- **Accelerates Innovation through the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H).** The Budget proposes a major investment of \$5 billion for ARPA-H, significantly increasing direct Federal research and development spending in health. With an initial focus on cancer and other diseases such as diabetes and dementia, this major investment would drive transformational innovation in health research and speed application and implementation of health breakthroughs. Funding for ARPA-H, along with additional funding for the National Institutes of Health, total a \$49 billion request to continue to support research that enhances health, lengthens life, reduces illness and disability, and spurs new biotechnology productions and innovation.
- **Advances the Cancer Moonshot Initiative.** The Budget proposes investments in ARPA-H, the National Cancer Institute, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to accelerate the rate of progress against cancer by working toward reducing the cancer death rate by at least 50 percent over the next 25 years and improving the experience of people who are living with or who have survived cancer.
- **Transforms Mental Healthcare.** Mental health is essential to overall health, and the United States faces a mental health crisis that has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. To address this crisis, the Budget proposes reforms to health coverage and major investments in the mental health workforce. For people with private health insurance, the Budget requires all health plans to cover mental health benefits and ensures that plans have an adequate network of behavioral health providers. For Medicare, TRICARE, the

Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare system, health insurance issuers, group health plans, and the Federal Health Employee Benefit Program, the Budget lowers patients' costs for mental health services. The Budget also requires parity in coverage between behavioral health and medical benefits, and expands coverage for behavioral health providers under Medicare. The Budget invests in increasing the number of mental health providers serving Medicaid beneficiaries, as well as in mental health workforce development and service expansion, including at primary care clinics and non-traditional sites. The Budget also provides sustained and increased funding for community-based centers and clinics, including a State option to receive enhanced Medicaid reimbursement on a permanent basis. In addition, the Budget makes historic investments in youth mental health and suicide prevention programs and in training, educational loan repayment, and scholarships that help address the shortage of behavioral health providers, especially in underserved communities. The Budget also strengthens access to crisis services by building out the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, which will transition from a ten-digit number to 988 in July 2022.

- **Commits to Ending the HIV/AIDS Epidemic.** The *National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States 2022–2025* commits to a 75-percent reduction in HIV infection by 2025. To meet this ambitious target and ultimately end the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States, the Budget includes \$850 million across HHS to aggressively reduce new HIV cases, increase access to pre-exposure prophylaxis (also known as PrEP), and ensure equitable access to services and supports for those living with HIV. This includes increasing access to PrEP among Medicaid beneficiaries, which is expected to improve health and lower Medicaid costs for HIV treatment. The Budget also proposes a new mandatory program to guarantee PrEP at no cost for all uninsured and underinsured individuals, provide essential wrap-around services through States, IHS, tribal entities, and localities, and establish a network of community providers to reach underserved areas and populations.
- **Guarantees Adequate and Stable Funding for IHS.** As part of the Administration's commitment to honor the United States' trust responsibility to tribal nations and strengthen the Nation-to-Nation relationship, the Budget significantly increases IHS's funding over time, and shifts it from discretionary to mandatory funding. For the first year of the proposal, the Budget includes \$9.1 billion in mandatory funding, an increase of \$2.9 billion from the 2021 enacted level. After the first year, IHS funding would automatically grow to keep pace with healthcare costs and population growth and gradually close longstanding service and facility shortfalls. By providing IHS stable and predictable funding, the proposal would improve access to high-quality healthcare, rectify historical underfunding of the Indian health system, reduce existing facility backlogs such as the Healthcare Facilities Construction Priority List, address health inequities, and modernize IHS' electronic health record system. This proposal has been informed by consultations with tribal nations on the issue of mandatory funding and will be refined based on ongoing consultation.
- **Prepares for Future Pandemics and Advances Health Security for Other Biological Threats.** While combatting the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the United States must catalyze advances in science, technology, and core capabilities to prepare the Nation for the next biological threat and strengthen U.S. and global health security. The Budget makes transformative investments in pandemic preparedness and biodefense across HHS public health agencies—\$81.7 billion available over five years—to enable an agile, coordinated, and comprehensive public health response to future threats, and to protect American lives, families and the economy. The Budget provides \$40 billion to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response to invest in advanced development and manufacturing of vaccines,

therapeutics, and diagnostics for high priority threats. The Budget provides \$28 billion for CDC to enhance public health system infrastructure, domestic and global threat surveillance, public health workforce development, public health laboratory capacity, and global health security. The Budget provides \$12.1 billion to NIH for: research and development of vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics against high priority biological threats; biosafety and biosecurity research and innovation to prevent biological incidents; and safe and secure laboratory capacity and clinical trial infrastructure. The Budget also includes \$1.6 billion for FDA to expand and modernize regulatory capacity information technology and laboratory infrastructure to support the evaluation of medical countermeasures. Further, the Budget encourages the development of innovative antimicrobial drugs through advance market commitments for critical-need antimicrobial drugs.

- **Builds Advanced Public Health Systems and Capacity.** The Budget includes \$9.9 billion in discretionary funding to build capacity at CDC and at the State and local levels, an increase of \$2.8 billion over the 2021 enacted level. These resources would: improve the core immunization program; expand public health infrastructure in States and Territories and strengthen the public health workforce; support efforts to modernize public health data collection; including at the Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics; and conduct studies on long COVID conditions to inform diagnosis and treatment options. In addition, to advance health equity, the Budget invests in CDC programs related to viral hepatitis, youth mental health, and sickle cell disease. To address gun violence as a public health epidemic, the Budget invests in community violence intervention and firearm safety research.
- **Expands Access to Vaccines.** The Budget establishes a new Vaccines for Adults (VFA) program, which would provide uninsured adults with access to all vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices at no cost. As a complement to the successful Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, the VFA program would reduce disparities in vaccine coverage and promote infrastructure for broad access to routine and outbreak vaccines. The Budget would also expand the VFC program to include all children under age 19 enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program and consolidate vaccine coverage under Medicare Part B, making more preventive vaccines available at no cost to Medicare beneficiaries.
- **Advances Maternal Health and Health Equity.** The United States has the highest maternal mortality rate among developed nations, and rates are disproportionately high for Black and American Indian and Alaska Native women. The Budget includes \$470 million to: reduce maternal mortality and morbidity rates; expand maternal health initiatives in rural communities; implement implicit bias training for healthcare providers; create pregnancy medical home demonstration projects; and address the highest rates of perinatal health disparities, including by supporting the perinatal health workforce. The Budget also extends and increases funding for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program, which serves approximately 71,000 families at risk for poor maternal and child health outcomes each year, and is proven to reduce disparities in infant mortality. To address the lack of data on health disparities and further improve access to care, the Budget strengthens collection and evaluation of health equity data. Recognizing that maternal mental health conditions are the most common complications of pregnancy and childbirth, the Budget continues to support the maternal mental health hotline and the screening and treatment for maternal mental depression and related behavioral disorders.
- **Expands Access to Healthcare Services for Low-Income Women.** The Budget provides \$400 million, an increase of nearly 40 percent from the 2021 enacted level, to the Title X Family Planning program, which provides family planning and other healthcare to low-income

communities. This increase in Title X funding would improve overall access to vital reproductive and preventive health services and advance gender and health equity.

- **Expands Access to Affordable, High-Quality Early Child Care and Learning.** The Budget provides \$20.2 billion for HHS's early care and education programs, an increase of \$3.3 billion, or 19 percent, from the 2021 enacted level. This includes \$7.6 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, an increase of \$1.7 billion from the 2021 enacted level to expand access to quality, affordable child care for families across the Nation. In addition, the Budget helps young children enter kindergarten ready to learn by providing \$12.2 billion for Head Start, an increase of \$1.5 billion from the 2021 enacted level. The Budget also helps States identify and fill gaps in early education programs by funding the Preschool Development Grants program at \$450 million, an increase of \$175 million from the 2021 enacted level.
- **Advances Child and Family Well-Being in the Child Welfare System.** The Budget proposes to expand and incentivize the use of evidence-based foster care prevention services to keep families safely together and to reduce the number of children entering foster care. For children who do need to be placed into foster care, the Budget provides States with support and incentives to place more children with relatives or other adults who have an existing emotional bond with the children and fewer children in group homes and institutions, while also providing additional funding to support youth who age out of care without a permanent caregiver. The Budget proposes to nearly double flexible funding for States through the Promoting Safe and Stable Families program, and proposes new provisions to expand access to legal representation for children and families in the child welfare system. The Budget also provides \$100 million in competitive grants for States and localities to advance reforms that would reduce the overrepresentation of children and families of color in the child welfare system, address the disparate experiences and outcomes of these families, and provide more families with the support they need to remain safely together. Further, the Budget provides \$215 million for States and community-based organizations to respond to and prevent child abuse.
- **Supports Survivors of Domestic Violence and Other Forms of Gender Based-Violence.** The Budget proposes significant increases to support and protect survivors of gender-based violence, including \$519 million for the Family Violence Prevention and Services (FVPSA) program to support domestic violence survivors—more than double the 2021 enacted level. This amount continues funding availability for FVPSA-funded resource centers, including those that support the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex community. The Budget would provide additional funding for domestic violence hotlines and cash assistance for survivors of domestic violence, as well as funding to support a demonstration project evaluating services for survivors at the intersection of housing instability, substance use coercion, and child welfare. In addition, the Budget would provide over \$66 million for victims of human trafficking and survivors of torture, an increase of nearly \$21 million from the 2021 enacted level.
- **Supports America's Promise to Refugees.** The Budget provides \$6.3 billion to the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). This funding would help rebuild the Nation's refugee resettlement infrastructure and support the resettling of up to 125,000 refugees in 2023. The Budget would also help ensure that unaccompanied immigrant children are unified with relatives and sponsors as safely and quickly as possible and receive appropriate care and services while they are in ORR's custody. The Budget makes additional investments in services, including expanded access to counsel to help children navigate complex immigration court proceedings, and enhanced case management and post-release services. The Budget also includes mandatory investments in the Unaccompanied Children (UC) program, including a multiyear contingency

fund that would automatically provide additional resources when there are large increases in UC referrals, and a proposal to scale up to universal UC legal representation. The Budget redresses past wrongs by providing resources for critical reunification services—including trauma-related and mental health services—to children and families unduly separated from each other through policies of the previous administration.

- **Supports Families Struggling with Home Energy and Water Bills.** The Budget provides \$4 billion, a \$225 million increase from the 2021 enacted level, for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHEAP helps families access home energy and weatherization assistance, vital tools for protecting vulnerable families' health in response to extreme weather and climate change. As part of the Justice40 pilot, HHS plans to increase efforts to prevent energy shutoffs and increase support for households with young children and older people, and high energy burdens. Since the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) expires at the end of 2023, the Budget proposes to expand LIHEAP to advance the goals of both LIHEAP and LIHWAP. Specifically, the Budget increases LIHEAP funding and gives States the option to use a portion of their LIHEAP funds to provide water bill assistance to low-income households.

